



Attorney Docket: 25834

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
SUGAHARA, et al.  
Serial Number: 10/720,542  
Filed: November 25, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2613  
Examiner: Unknown

For: **VARIABLE LENGTH DATA ENCODING METHOD, VARIABLE LENGTH DATA ENCODING APPARATUS, VARIABLE LENGTH ENCODED DATA DECODING METHOD, AND VARIABLE LENGTH ENCODED DATA DECODING APPARATUS**

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

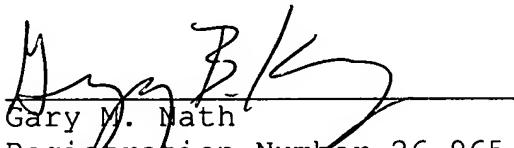
Sir:

Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is the following:

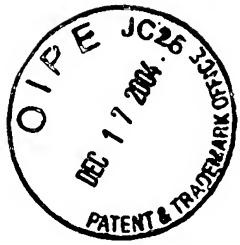
- (1) Transmittal Letter
- (2) Status Request

Respectfully submitted,  
**NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC**

By:

  
Gary M. Nath  
Registration Number 26,965  
Gregory B. Kang  
Registration Number 45,273  
Customer Number 20529

Date: December 17, 2004  
**NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC**  
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6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
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**STATUS REQUEST**

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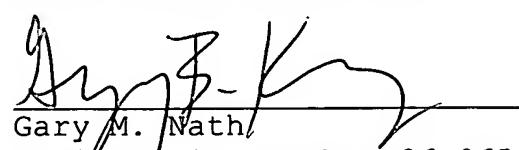
Sir:

The above-identified patent application was filed on November 25, 2003 and no communication has been received indicating action on the merits since that time. The undersigned attorney requests that status of the application and of the estimated date when a first Office Action on the merits may be mailed.

Respectfully submitted,

**NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC**

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